

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-11 IO-13 HA-05 ACDA-12 EB-08 OES-07 TRSE-00  
OMB-01 AID-05 /127 W  
-----023203 191437Z /50

R 171501Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LOME  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4169  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN  
AMEMBASSY ACCRA  
AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY  
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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EO 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PEPR TO DH  
SUBJ: FINAL COMMUNIQUE KEREKOU-EYADEMA MEETING  
  
REF: LOME 1583

1. FINAL COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF THE BILATERAL MEETING OF THE CHIEFS OF STATE OF TOGO AND BENIN MAY 12, 1978 TOOK GREAT PAINS TO AVOID ANY REFLECTION OF PROFOUND DIFFERENCES IN POLITICAL ORIENTATION BETWEEN THE TWO STATES. INSTEAD, THE EMPHASIS WAS PLACED ON THOSE ISSUES ON WHICH THE TWO COULD FIND COMMON GROUND: OPPOSITION TO THE USE OF MERCENARIES; REUNIFICATION OF KOREA; CONDEMNATION OF SOUTH AFRICA; OPPOSITION TO THE INTERNAL ACCORDS AND SUPPORT FOR THE PATRIOTIC FRONT IN RHODESIA; AND SUPPORT FOR ECOWAS. WITH REGARD TO NAMIBIA, THE COMMUNIQUE SAYS THAT THE  
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"PLAN OF SETTLEMENT PROPOSED BY THE FIVE WESTERN POWERS WOULD GAIN BY BEING IMPROVED IN ORDER TO RESPOND FULLY TO THE PROFOUND ASPIRATIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA UNDER THE FAR SEEING LEADERSHIP OF SWAPO." REGARDING WESTERN SAHARA, THE COMMUNIQUE SUPPORTED AN EXTRAORDINARY OAU SUMMIT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

2. THE PRINCIPAL BILATERAL MATTER UNDER DISCUSSION AT THE MEETING WAS A PLAN FOR THE INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MONO VALLEY, WHICH IN ITS LOWER REACHES IS THE FRONTIER BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. THE MEETING "INSTITUTIONALIZED" A JOINT COMMISSION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MONO AND AGREED ON A JOINT MISSION TO DISCUSS WITH FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS WAYS TO SPEED UP THE PROJECT, WHICH INCLUDES A HYDROELECTRIC DAM. ACCORDING TO THE COMMUNIQUE, THE TWO CHIEFS OF STATE EXPRESSED THEIR SATISFACTION WITH THE RESULTS OF A JOINT MEETING HELD MARCH 20-22 IN LOME WITH PROSPECTIVE FINANCIAL BACKERS ON THIS PROJECT.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH TOGOLESE-BENINESE RELATIONS HAVE OFTEN BEEN STRAINED, MOST RECENTLY AS A RESULT OF BENIN'S SUSPICION OF TOGOLESE INVOLVEMENT IN THE MERCENARY RAID OF JANUARY 16, 1977 ON COTONOU, TOGO HAS MUCH TO GAIN FROM IMPROVED BILATERAL RELATIONS. CONSTRUCTION OF THE MAJOR HYDROELECTRIC DAM ON THE MONO WOULD GREATLY REDUCE TOGO'S DEPENDENCE ON GHANAIAN ELECTRICITY POWER FROM AKOSOMBO DAM. NOW THAT TOGO HAS HAD ITS OWN BRUSH WITH MERCENARIES, IT IS PRESUMABLY MORE SYMPATHETIC TO BENIN'S HYPER-REACTION TO THE JANUARY 1977 MERCENARY RAID. FINANCING FOR THE MONO PROJECT IS BEING SOUGHT FROM THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS: THE UNITED NATIONS' UNDP, THE COMMON MARKET'S FUND FOR AID AND COOPERATION, THE WORLD BANK, THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, THE ARAB LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BANK FOR AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT. THE WORLD BANK WILL BE ASKED TO MAKE THE MAJOR CONTRIBUTION. TOGO ALSO BELIEVES THAT COOPERATION IN A MAJOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECT WOULD TEND TO PREVENT SUCH ANNOYING INCIDENTS AS THE SERIES OF BORDER CLOSINGS IN 1975 AND 1976 WHICH HAD A NEGATIVE EFFECT ON THE TOGOLESE ECONOMY. IN THE INTERESTS OF SUCH BREAD AND BUTTER CONCERNS, TOGO WOULD BE WILLING TO COOPERATE WITH THE DEVIL AND FINDS THE NEIGHBORING MARXIST-LENINIST REGIME IN BENIN A PROMISING PARTNER. YOUNG

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COMMUNIQUE, CHIEFS OF STATE MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Film Number:** D780211-0557  
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**Subject:** FINAL COMMUNIQUE KEREKOU-EYADEMA MEETING  
**TAGS:** PEPR, TO, DM, (KEREKOU, MATHIEU), (EYADEMA, GNASSINGBE)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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